

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tetsuro ASANO et al.

Serial No.: 10/521,941

Filing Date: February 6, 2006

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Examiner: J. Jackson

Group Art Unit: 2815

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the foreign document and non-patent literature are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

Document no. 4 listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b was cited in a Chinese Office Action dated November 28, 2008, directed to a related foreign application and has not been previously cited. Documents no. 1, 3 and 5 listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in a European Search Report dated December 3, 2008, directed to a counterpart foreign application and have not been previously cited. A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2) follows:

I hereby certify that no item of information was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance. A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) is provided above; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.

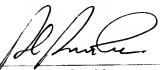
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 492322017300.

Dated: February 5, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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